In re Appln. of Hattori et al. Application No. 09/781,703

albumin, wherein the PQQ-dependent glucose dehydrogenase content is 100 to 2000 kU per gram of the total components calculated on a dry basis.

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4. (Amended) The method according to claim 3, wherein the PQQ-dependent glucose dehydrogenase is present in the composition with a buffer.

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### REMARKS

#### The Present Invention

The present invention relates to a stable composition comprising a PQQ-dependent glucose dehydrogenase and a method of preparing the composition.

## The Pending Claims

Claims 1-4 are currently pending. Reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

### Amendments to the Claims

The claims have been amended so as to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. In particular, the claims have been amended to correct grammar and to recite that the PQQ-dependent glucose dehydrogenase content is 100 to 2000 kU per gram of the composition. This amendment is supported by the specification at, for example, page 6, lines 2-3. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments. The precise amendments to the claims, as well as the text of the pending claims as amended, are set forth on separate attachments hereto.

## Summary of the Office Action

The Office Action rejects claims 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite. Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Adachi et al. (JP 09-140378). Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Sode et al. (*Biotechnology Techniques*, 11(8), 577-580 (1997)) in view of Adachi et al. (JP 09-140378).

# Discussion of the Section 112, Second Paragraph, Rejection

Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under section 112, second paragraph, because the Examiner considers the phrase "is made to coexist" vague and indefinite. Claims 3 and 4